prepared by the
Crown Land Classification Committee

APPROVED BY THE PROVINCIAL
LAND USE COMMITTEE OF CABINET

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PROVINCIAL CROWN LAND PLAN for the BROKENHEAD RIVER PLANNING DISTRICT

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I. INTRODUCTION

This Crown land plan classifies to various land uses the Provincial lands in the Rural Municipality of Brokenhead. Central to this plan is the land classification for the Mars Hill area.

The planning and classification of provincial Crown land in southern Manitoba is the responsibility of the Crown Land Classification Committee. This is an interdepartmental committee with representation from the Departments of Agriculture, Natural Resources, Northern Affairs, Rural Development, Energy and Mines, and Environment. The Crown Land Classification Committee reports to and receives its direction from the Provincial Land Use Committee of Cabinet.

The Provincial Land Use Committee of Cabinet approves all Provincial Crown Land Plans, including plan amendments. The Crown Land Classification Committee prepares the plan and consults with local planning authorities respecting the plan and plan amendments prior to review by the Provincial Land Use Committee of Cabinet.

The Crown land plan applies only to Provincial Crown land, the jurisdiction of which remains the responsibility of the Manitoba Government. The plan does not address Federal Crown, Indian Reserve or patented lands.

II. CROWN LAND PLANNING COMPONENTS

Crown land planning is a process which is continuous and ongoing. It involves inventory of land and resources, evaluation of capability and suitability, identification of demands and needs, the establishment of goals and objectives and consultation with local planning authorities.

The goals and objectives (Section III) of this Crown land plan were formulated after consideration of the Provincial Land Use Policies, in conjunction with Provincial departmental sector goals and objectives. The Crown land allocation procedures, which designated the Crown lands to achieve these goals, utilized accepted basic land use planning concepts along with current Crown land management and administrative directives and guidelines.

A. PROVINCIAL LAND AND RESOURCE GOALS

The Provincial Land Use Policies form the overall framework for this plan through the guidance and direction they prescribe in the management of the Province's land resource. These policy statements identify general provincial land and resource goals.

The Provincial land and resource goals are:

1) To protect the present and future agricultural industry, to protect land for present and future food production and to foster growth and development in the agricultural industry.

2) To provide for orderly rural development and to reduce rural servicing costs by consolidating development.

3) To safeguard scarce recreational and scenic resources and to protect existing and future recreation areas against overuse and degradation of recreational resources.

4) To recognize the importance of key shorelands and to protect from erosion the integrity and usefulness of this finite resource for recreation, watertable retention requirements, to ensure the viability of critical environments and to ensure the right of public access to major waterways and waterbodies.

5) To ensure that significant land and resource areas are not adversely affected by adjacent land uses.

6) To protect areas critical to the existence and maintenance of rare and endangered flora and fauna and to protect significant natural features which characterize a region and to identify, preserve and protect heritage resources.

7) To maintain and promote economic opportunities, ecological diversity, existing natural resources values and populations and aesthetic qualities of the rural landscape associated with renewable resources utilization.

8) To protect life and property from natural hazards such as flooding and erosion, to maintain the natural capacity of streams to convey flood flows and to protect existing flood control works.

9) To maintain a high level of service and safety on the Province's highways, to protect the provincial investment in highways and to minimize disruption to local development in the future.

10) To protect aggregate and quarry mineral resources and to integrate these areas into the overall planning process.

This Crown land plan does not address provincial transportation, mineral or rural development goals. However, the plan will not preclude procurement of land for roads or limit mineral development or exploration subject to normal review and clearance procedures.

Aspects of schooling, local transportation systems, water supplies for domestic use, etc., are best addressed by local planning authorities more directly responsible to meeting local needs. Where potential conflicts in use occur or where Crown land allocations may impact on rural servicing costs, these issues will be addressed through consultation with the local authority (Council and/or Planning Board). Adjustments may then be made to the plan to address these concerns.

B. CONCEPTS

There are a number of basic concepts which are considered in the planning for Crown land. These concepts influence policy interpretation and Crown land allocation. Therefore, in optimising Crown land and resource use and maintaining a high quality environment, the following apply:

1) The planning of Crown land is undertaken with consideration given to local needs. This is achieved through consultation with local planning authorities and recognition of the demands identified by government departments in servicing and consulting with their respective client groups.

2) Where there is significant public or private investment, the affected Crown lands are classified and allocated to uses which are in concert with or do not jeopardize the investment in either an economic or physical sense.

3) Current management practices on all Crown land include: the application of multiple land use principles; the protection and improvement of the land's long-term productive capacity; the minimization of erosion and other destructive processes; and the utilization of the land consistent with its inherent capabilities with due consideration given to intensive management.

   a) The application of a multiple land use concept, that is, the utilization of Crown land and resources by competing and complementary users in both time and space requires the identification of areas of compatible land uses wherever possible.

   b) The capability and suitability of the land and water resource base for development is considered.

   c) Classification of erosion-prone or relatively infertile lands to land uses which ultimately lead to a lower productivity of the land base is not acceptable.

   d) In general, a minimum 25 percent of each quarter section is maintained in natural woody vegetation for a number of purposes.

4) Existing land uses and land use patterns are accounted for and considered.

5) In general, existing non-conforming uses on Crown land are accepted and will be allowed to continue until the existing commitment expires or a suitable alternative site for the use can be found.

6) Except where indicated, the plan will not preclude or limit future mineral extraction or exploration on Crown lands where approved by the Provincial Government.

7) The right of public access to Crown land and water for the purposes of sport angling, commercial fishing, hunting, trapping, outdoor recreation pursuits and general access is maintained in accordance with such acts, regulations and contracts as are in effect from time to time.

8) Future permanent development (i.e., residences, summer homes, cottages, commercial buildings, etc.) will be assessed for hazards such as flooding, erosion or bank instability. In general, development shall be subject to the following requirements, excepting under special economic and social circumstances.

   a) All permanent development shall be located on land above the 100-year flood level. When it is not possible to estimate the 100-year flood level due to insufficient hydrometric data for the waterway, then an elevation of 1.5 metres (5.0 feet) above the high water mark will be used.

b) Land which may be eroded away within a period of 50 years shall be excluded from development unless it is demonstrated that the erosion process has been halted.

c) Development shall not be permitted on lands subject to bank instability, landslides, or subsidence.

d) Use of Crown land in water power reserve, control areas and licence areas must conform to the above or must not be required for water power purposes. Approval for development and use is required from Manitoba Natural Resources, Water Resources.

e) In order to minimize surface water quality degradation, development and use of surface water resources shall not exceed the carrying capacity.

9) The plan will not restrict the Province from entering or withdrawing Crown lands for utility rights-of-way, highways, roads, drains, etc., subject to normal clearance and approval procedures.

10) Heritage resources (sites, structures, objects or areas of historic, architectural or archaeological significance) are located on Crown lands. Those resources identified now or in the future shall be protected from uses and activities that will endanger them. Areas containing such resources may be developed only after consultation with the Historic Resources Branch, Manitoba Culture, Heritage and Citizenship.

C. MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Land management and administration does not direct land planning and land allocation, but it does influence land use. Where concerns of potential land use conflict can be addressed through management and administration, remedial allocations are avoided. Some of the basic management and administrative factors which apply are:

1) For Crown lands under agricultural use the following apply:

a) The right of public access is in accordance with such acts, regulations and contracts that are in effect from time to time.

b) Access is guaranteed to quarry lease operations subject to compensation being negotiated relative to loss of privately owned improvements.

c) The right of the Province to enter a leased area and to withdraw lease rights on lands for utility rights-of-way, roads, etc., is guaranteed.

d) Lands having greater than nine percent slope must be maintained in native cover or permanent forage.

e) A buffer strip of natural vegetation from 45 to 90 metres wide must be left adjacent to all water courses and permanent waterbodies.

f) A buffer strip of natural vegetation not less than 45 meters in width should be retained within 90 metres of all municipal and provincial roads.

g) No wetland shall be drained or filled without approval.

h) Topsoil and leaf mat shall not be removed.

i) All livestock must be contained (i.e., fenced). Strips of bush can be cleared for fencelines on the perimeter of quarter sections or portions thereof.

Additionally, and for the purpose of management, fencelines to establish rotational grazing systems, and/or cattle access corridors can be cleared in the interior of parcels. In situations where no development is allowable, or the maximum development acreage has been reached, clearing of interior fencelines and/or corridors is permissible providing prior approval has been granted via Site Plan by the Bloc Planning Committee.

Perimeter or interior fencelines, and access corridors are not to exceed 15 meters in width, unless specifically authorized through Site Plan.

j) Merchantable timber is subject to stumpage rates if it is marketable. The Crown retains the right to issue cutting rights to the public by way of timber sale and/or timber permit to harvest timber on Crown lands. The merchantable timber is subject to the payment of stumpage rates.

k) Direct seeding of tame forage species into native sod, or sod seeding is permissible providing it conforms with the allowable development code, or has received prior approval from the Bloc Planning Committee via Site Plan in situations where the code does not allow development, or the maximum development acreage has been reached.

2) Survey monuments defining township, section and quarter section corners shall not be destroyed.

3) Water quality shall not be adversely affected by Crown land uses. Activities and intensive shoreland developments that discharge pollutants shall be restricted in their location and it may be required that precautionary safeguards which mitigate the adverse effects of pollution be incorporated into the development. These activities and developments shall meet Manitoba's Surface Water Quality Objectives. Shorelands shall be protected from excessive erosion which might affect water quality.

4) Activities such as dumping, excavation, clearing, cultivation, or excessive grazing which would accelerate or promote dangerous erosion or bank instability will be prohibited.

5) Activities that may cause pollution under normal operating conditions or by accident should not be permitted in the groundwater pollution hazard area unless it can be proved by adequate field investigations that the proposed activities will not cause pollution of existing or potential groundwater supply in the area.

6) Groundwater consumption should not exceed the total sustained yield of an aquifer. Wells shall be installed in a manner that will not have a detrimental effect on aquifers. Intensive development (e.g., subdivisions) and high capacity wells will be permitted only in areas where they will not cause a reduction in water supply for existing users.

7) Lakes, streams, rivers, creeks, etc., which are identified as significant fisheries habitat areas shall be protected. The use of Crown land adjacent to these waterways and particularly spawning sties and/or nursery areas shall be controlled and managed to minimize damage to fish stocks and fish habitat from siltation, nutrient loading, disturbance and water quality degradation. Manitoba's Surface Water Quality Objectives shall be used to ensure protection for end uses such as fisheries. Management of these adjacent lands shall be in accordance with approved fish habitat protection guidelines and includes but is not limited to controlling the clearing, cultivation, timber harvesting, and developing of sites to the water's edge, and maintaining or creating natural vegetation buffers of varying widths as required.

8) Sewage effluent discharges shall meet provincial standards. Flows required to flush and dilute waste waters and protect fish stocks shall be encouraged.

9) Stream crossings shall not adversely affect fish habitat or populations. Where crossings may affect fish habitat, the crossing should be designed and constructed with reference to "Recommended Fish Protection Procedures for Stream Crossings in Manitoba" prepared by Manitoba Natural Resources.

III. PLAN GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The goals and objectives outlined for Crown lands are basic to all areas of the Province. The degree to which these goals may be achieved and the economic and social impact which will result are determined by: the amount and manner of distribution of the Crown lands in the area under consideration; the capability of this land for proposed uses and its suitability for development; current uses of this land; and present demands and commitments being made upon it.

The role and impact of Crown lands in this Planning District is of a minor nature in achieving the Province's goals and objectives in respect of the principal land and resource users of Crown land. In recognition of this impact, the following sectoral goals are provided for information purposes in an effort to illustrate the general position of government regarding the use, development and protection of Provincial resources. By sector, the general goals and objectives for Crown land and resources are:

A. AGRICULTURE

Agriculture is the principal land use and industry of rural Agro-Manitoba. It is in the long-term interest of the Province to protect the agricultural industry. This means protecting not only the quality and the quantity of productive land, but protecting the ability of farmers to expand, diversify or change their operations in response to market demand. The principal goals are:

1) To protect agricultural land for present and future production and to foster growth and development in the agricultural industry.

2) To ensure conservation of the natural resources upon which agriculture is dependent.

Comment

Agricultural Crown land within this Planning District is very limited. In total, 194 hectares (480 acres) of Crown land are designated for agricultural use. This represents approximately 4% of the total Crown lands.

Agricultural capabilities on these lands, as measured by the Canada Land Inventory, comprise Class 3 and Class 5 soil types. These soils have moderately severe to very severe limitations that restrict the range of crops or require special conservation practices.

B. FISHERIES

Harvesting and processing of fish caught by Manitoba commercial fishermen and the sport fishing enterprises, serving residents and non-residents provide jobs, income and revenue. Additionally, the fish resource provides recreational opportunities along with the associated income and employment benefits to the service, retail and manufacturing sectors.

In order that these income and quality-of-life benefits can be sustained and enhanced, the Fisheries goals are:

1) To recognize the need for fisheries management that will result in the greatest long-term benefit to Manitobans and ensure survival and improvement of fish stocks.

2) To establish and maintain a viable commercial and tourist fishing industry wherein participants can earn a reasonable return on their investment and time with limited social disruption.

3) To maintain and enhance angling opportunities for Manitobans to meet existing and future demands.

4) To provide and maintain sufficient fish stocks to support subsistence fishing.

5) To minimize the loss and degradation of habitat due to other competing and non-competing resource uses and to improve degraded habitat.

Comment

Fisheries resources are limited within the Planning District, since most water bodies are too shallow and most streams are too intermittent to sustain permanent fish populations. Water depths are usually insufficient to overwinter fish. Existing fisheries depend on upstream watersheds and are greatly affected by nutrient loading and contamination from them.

A section of the Brokenhead River approximately 58 km. (36 miles), lies within the Planning District and represents the only potentially significant fisheries habitat within this area. Several years ago, this section of the Brokenhead River supported a variety of fish species. Presently, the fish population is severly depressed. Several years of drought resulted in extensive winter kills. Habitat problems, particularily the establishment of obstructive fish passage dams and illegal harvesting of fish, have contributed to the population low. The potential exists however, through rehabilitation, to restore the Brokenhead River to a viable fish-producing system.

C. FORESTRY

The forest industry contributes significant socio-economic benefits to the Province of Manitoba through the harvesting of Crown timber and the production of forest products, goods and services. It is anticipated that in the course of the next 20 years, the forest industry will continue to grow at the rate of about two to three percent per year. It is expected that the socio-economic benefits derived from this growth will continue at the same rate.

In order that these benefits can be achieved, Manitoba's forest land must be protected from fire, insects and disease, the most productive sites retained to produce future forests, land that is presently under forest must not be further alienated to other incompatible uses, and forested lands managed in the most intensive manner possible. More specifically, the goals are:

1) To maintain a sufficient amount of highly productive Crown lands for long-term forest management purposes. Specifically, highly productive forest lands must be set aside as provincial forests. This will allow for investment by the Province in the necessary management to ensure that such lands provide forests on a continuing and sustained basis.

2) To intensify the management levels on those forest lands to achieve a higher level of productivity than when managed under natural conditions. Intensified management will involve the establishment of new stands on cutover lands utilizing genetically superior seedling stock and utilizing the most up-to-date stand establishment techniques. Subsequent to stand establishment, the intensity of management must be continued in a stand-tending program of forest fertilization, thinning and pruning. In instances where stand establishment has been by natural means, thinning and other silvicultural techniques will be required.

3) To intensify management of lands through a higher degree of protection of stands against the ravages of fire, insects and disease through enhanced fire and pest management programs. Higher levels of utilization will be required of the forest industry so that the greatest amount of fibre produced on a given area will be converted into useful forest products.

Comment

At the present time, no Crown lands are actively being managed and administered for forestry purposes. The Municipality is outside the province's "Wooded Zone" where the vast majority of the commercial forest activity occurs. For the Crown lands in the Municipality, the highest CLI capability class for forestry is 5. The remainder of the Crown lands are classed 6 and 7. These lands have severe limitations to the growth of commercial forests.

The Municipality is located within the Aspen Parkland Forest Section, Forestry Management Unit 01 as defined in the Manitoba Forest Inventory Classification System, 1980. The Forest Inventory was carried out during 1979 and 1981 to determine the location and extent of its forest resources.

D. HERITAGE RESOURCES

Heritage resources are any works of nature or of man that are of interest primarily for their prehistoric, historic, cultural, natural, scientific or aesthetic value including, but not limited to artifacts, paleontological objects, prehistoric or historic sites, natural sites, structure or objects. Heritage resources are important because they embody information that is essential to an understanding and appreciation of human society. Therefore, heritage resources should be managed so that such information is not irrevocably lost.

The principal goals of heritage resources management are:

1) to identify, preserve and protect heritage resources; and

2) to encourage a public awareness and understanding of, and appreciation for heritage resources.

Heritage resources (sites, structures, objects or areas of historic, architectural or archaeological significance) are located on Crown lands. These resources identified now or in the future shall be protected from uses and activities that will endanger them. areas containing such resources may be developed only after consultation with the Historic Resources Branch, Manitoba Culture, Heritage and Citizenship.

Comment

No archaeological, architectural, or historical resources are known to exist on Crown lands in the Planning District. However, because there have been no systematic field surveys here, it is likely that heritage resources will be identified in the future.

E. OUTDOOR RECREATION AND PARKS

Outdoor recreation opportunities are essential to the high quality of life which Manitobans presently enjoy. These activities also make an important contribution to the provincial economy. The provincial government, in conjunction with other levels of government and individual and private enterprise, is an important provider of outdoor recreation opportunities. Present trends suggest that the need for this management function will continue at a high level during the 1980's.

Fundamental to the development of recreational areas is the need to maintain a harmony with natural and man-made environments. Important recreation and resource areas such as waterways and shorelands, prime wildlife habitat, and natural, cultural and historic areas will be identified and protected with adjacent incompatible land and resource uses controlled.

The principal goals are:

1) To provide a variety of types and amounts of outdoor recreational opportunities for the pleasure and enjoyment of the citizens of Manitoba, both now and in the future.

2) To identify and preserve rare, scarce, or special forms of recreation in Manitoba.

3) To provide suitable park areas to allow and encourage the people of Manitoba to enjoy and appreciate each distinct natural landscape in the Province.

Comment

The majority of Crown lands within the Planning District are rated by the Canada Land Inventory, as Capability Class 5 for outdoor recreation. These lands have moderately low capability for outdoor recreation.

Mars Hill Wildlife Management Area offers the greatest recreational opportunities. The area exhibits variety in topography which enhances opportunities for hiking, viewing upland wildlife and nature study or aesthetic appreciation of the area.

The river-courses are also important from the recreational perspective. While there are not many Crown land parcels along the river (those that exist have not been identified on the map as they are often too small in size to be illustrated), they still add to the recreational opportunities of the area by providing access to the river.

F. WILDLIFE

A wide variety of wildlife species including birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians occupy the Manitoba environment. Wildlife has economic, cultural and historical significance to Manitobans who value and use the wildlife for food, income, recreation, education and science.

Wildlife is a renewable resource, a cornerstone to environmental health and an important indicator of environmental quality. It is incumbent upon the Province to ensure the long term viability of wildlife. Therefore, the principal goals are:

1) To ensure the provision of wildlife resources that will result in the greatest long-term benefit to Manitobans.

2) To ensure that wildlife populations and their habitats are protected from irreversible damage and that, subject to the effects of natural and approved man-made environmental changes, viable populations are maintained.

3) To maintain population levels of all wildlife species at levels sufficient to meet public demand, including but not limited to demand for: domestic use, recreational use, educational use and commercial use and to maintain, protect and enhance areas suitable for these activities.

4) To protect the integrity of the resource base and intended use of areas designated or proposed by the Province as wildlife management areas from incompatible and possibly damaging uses.

5) To mitigate, where possible, wildlife depredation damage.

Comment

Mars Hill represents the primary Crown land area within the Planning District which contains wildlife. The lands are primarily designated as Capability Class 5 for ungulates and Capability Class 7 for waterfowl by the Canada Land Inventory.

Ungulate production within the class 5 area has moderely severe limitations due to poor soil moisture or lack of nutrients in the soil for optimum plant growth. Deer are the most common ungulates found in this area.

Waterfowl production for the most part is non-existant. Lands in this class have severe limitations due to the poor water-holding capacity of soils, which adversely affect the formation and permanency of water areas.

IV. CROWN LAND USE CLASSIFICATIONS

The Crown lands in the Brokenhead River Planning district have been classified into five categories with one category being further classified into 4 sub-categories. They are:

A. Wildlife Management Area (W.M.A.)
    1. W.M.A. and Mineral Extraction
    2. W.M.A. and Outdoor Recreation
    3. W.M.A. and Outdoor Recreation and Mineral Extraction
    4. W.M.A. and Recreation Intensive Use
B. Ecological Reserve
C. Agriculture
D. Urban Use
E. Utility Site

A. Wildlife Management Area: Classification WW: As Shown on Map 1.

PRESENT CONDITION:

The most important features of Mars Hill relate to the area's topography, wildlife and mineral resources and its popularity as an extensively used recreational area. The Mars Hill area plan involves approximately 8,400 acres of Crown land.

CONCERNS/OBJECTIVES:

The principal goal of the area plan for Mars Hill is to guide the management of Mars Hill from an integrated resource perspective recognizing, however, its Wildlife Management Area status.

The plan for Mars Hill is guided by the following concerns and objectives.

1. Wildlife resources of the area are of provincial significance and must be enhanced and protected from long-term incompatible uses and developments.

2. Protection of the natural state of the area and enhancement of wildlife habitat are prime objectives.

3. The recreational resources of the area and its present recreational uses must be enhanced and protected for the long-term use by the local residents and all Manitobans.

4. Mineral resources (gravel) of the area are of long-term importance to the regional and provincial construction industry, and these resources must be protected from uses which may preclude their extraction.

5. Other resources, such as, timber are to be recognized and their development allowed in a manner which enhances the wildlife resources of the area or protects the area from the risks of fire.

POLICIES/GUIDELINES:

1. Wildlife Management Area - WW

   The management of the Wildlife Management Area is the responsibility of Manitoba Natural Resources, Wildlife Branch. The following applies;

   a) The Province of Manitoba will maintain the Wildlife Management Area in accordance with the area plan for Mars Hill.

   b) Public hunting may be allowed by Manitoba Natural Resources, Wildlife Branch, as determined by management requirements.

   c) Habitat enhancement is permitted.

d) Mineral development will be in compliance with the "Memorandum of Agreement - Mineral Exploration and Extraction - Wildlife Management Areas" between Manitoba Natural Resources, Energy and Mines, and Highways and Transportation.

e) Except where otherwise stated, other general land uses will be restricted to those which are supportive and compatible with the intent of the classification. For example, these lands are available for hiking, cross-country skiing, bird watching, nature photography, berry and mushroom picking, etc.

The Mars Hill Wildlife Management Area has been divided into four major zones. They are:

1. *W.M.A. and Mineral Extraction - Classification WW/M*
2. *W.M.A. and Outdoor Recreation - Classification WW/R*
3. *W.M.A. and Outdoor Recreation and Mineral Extraction - Classification WW/R/M*
4. *W.M.A. and Recreation Intensive Use - Classification WW/RM*

A-1. W.M.A. and Mineral Extraction - Classification WW/M - As Shown on Map 2.

POLICIES/GUIDELINES:

I. W.M.A. and Mineral Extraction - WW/M

These lands contain significant mineral and wildlife resources which must be recognized.

A-Ia) Mineral extraction is permitted.

A-Ib) Upon depletion of the mineral resource, the area will be reclassified for W.M.A..

A-Ic) Access in these areas is of a temporary nature and subject to closure due to mineral development requirements.

A-2. ***W.M.A. and Outdoor Recreation - Classification WW/R - As Shown on Map 2.***

POLICIES/GUIDELINES:

II. *Wildlife and Outdoor Recreation - WW/R*

These lands have value for wildlife and are also the principal outdoor recreational areas. The following applies:

A-IIa) *Low impact recreational pursuits such as hiking, berry picking, horseback riding are permitted.*

A-IIb) *The use of existing trails for motorized and non-motorized recreational pursuits is permitted.*

A-IIc) *Certain trails may be closed to protect the wildlife resource. Manitoba Natural Resources, Wildlife Branch approval is required for new trail development.*

A-IId) *No intensive recreational development is permitted (e.g. cottaging).*

A-IIe) *All timber utilization operations will be managed jointly by Manitoba Natural Resources, Wildlife and Forestry Branches for the benefit of the wildlife resource and to enhance the outdoor recreation experience.*

A-IIf) *Habitat enhancement may be undertaken on selected sites. Activities such as prescribed control burning will be conducted in compliance with The Environment Act and conducted by Manitoba Natural Resources, Wildlife, Forestry and Regional Services Branches.*

A-3. W.M.A. and Outdoor Recreation and Mineral Extraction - Classification WM/R/M -As Shown on Map 2.

POLICIES/GUIDELINES:

III. W.M.A. and Outdoor Recreation and Mineral Extraction WM/R/M/

Mineral extraction from these sites is expected. Some areas have already been leased and exclusive right for removal of aggregate has been given. In general, these areas abut or are contained within areas of general recreational and wildlife use.

A-IIIa) Mineral extraction is permitted.

A-IIIb) Upon depletion of the mineral resource, the area will be reclassified for "W.M.A. and Outdoor Recreation" and policies A-II a) to f) will apply.

A-IIIc) Access in these areas is of a temporary nature and subject to closure due to mineral development requirements.

A-4. W.M.A. and Recreation Intensive Use - Classification WW/RM - As Shown on Map 2.

POLICIES/GUIDELINES:

IV. W.M.A. and Recreation Intensive Use - WW/RM

These areas are designated for recreation to support the general extensive recreational pursuits in the area by the public. Additionally, these sites will be available for organized institutional recreational pursuits. The following applies:

A-IVa) Camping, use of portable warm-up shelters and car parking is permitted.

A-IVb) Isolated cottaging, lodges or major buildings are not permitted.

A-IVc) Group use activities are permitted.

A-IVd) Length of use is normally for day-use purposes. Extended use may be considered on a case-by-case basis.

A-IVe) Management of these lands is the joint responsibility of Manitoba Natural Resources, Wildlife and Lands Branches.

B. ECOLOGICAL RESERVE: CLASSIFICATION ER: AS SHOWN ON MAP 1.

PRESENT CONDITION:

The Brokenhead River Ecological Reserve occupies an area of about 65 hectares (160 acres). Established in 1978, the area is an undeveloped parcel of Crown land supporting a mature growth of typical river-bottom mixed-wood forest.

Ecological Reserves are established to preserve Manitoba's natural heritage of lands, plants and animals by setting aside areas which are representative of the Province's ecosystem or which possess unique or unusual natural or physiographic features.

CONCERNS/OBJECTIVES:

Few area of undisturbed river-bottom mixed-wood forest exist in southern Manitoba. This type of forest was, until recently, very common and a significant aspect of Manitoba's natural environment. Continued clearing of river bottom forests would result in the ultimate loss of this type of plant community and a reduction in variety of natural areas in the Province.

The objective of the reserve is to protect, in perpetuity, a representative area of river-bottom mixed-wood forest for aesthetic enjoyment by the public, ecological education, scientific investigation and as a benchmark for research, management and environmental studies.

The intent of this classification is to identify those lands which have been set aside as Ecological Reserve.

POLICIES/GUIDELINES:

2. Ecological Reserve - ER

The management and administration of Ecological Reserves is the responsibility of Manitoba Natural Resources. The following guidelines apply:

2a) Manitoba Natural Resources will maintain the Ecological Reserve as a representative area of river-bottom mixed-wood forest.

2b) No resource harvesting, land alienation or development will be permitted. This parcel will remain as it occurs in nature.

2c) All uses must have prior approval of the Minister of Natural Resources.

C. AGRICULTURE: CLASSIFICATION A: AS SHOWN ON MAP 1.

PRESENT CONDITION:

There are only about 194 hectares (480 acres) of Crown land designated for general agricultural use.

CONCERNS/OBJECTIVES:

The principal objective is to recognize the capability of some of the limited Crown lands in this area for agriculture and to ensure their effective use.

POLICIES/GUIDELINES:

3. Agriculture - A

Administration of agricultural leases and permits is the responsibility of the Agricultural Crown Lands Branch.

3a) These Crown lands are generally available for hay and grazing. Agricultural development and land clearing is allowed in most instances, but the amount of clearing will be specified. These lands are suitable for long-term commitment.

3b) Manitoba Natural Resources will consider and recommend the appropriate management of any site which requires special management, as it may affect resource interests.

3c) Other general land uses may be permitted if compatible with the basic intent of the classification.

D. URBAN USE: CLASSIFICATION U

PRESENT CONDITION:

Crown land parcels may occur within the boundaries of unincorporated or incorporated towns and villages within the area. The area in and around these settlements is influenced by, and often required for, urban uses.

CONCERNS/OBJECTIVES:

The principal concern is to recognize that Crown lands may be within existing settlements, and to ensure that the use of these lands is consistent with the plans of local government.

POLICIES/GUIDELINES:

4. Urban Use - U

These lands are administered by Manitoba Natural Resources in a manner to ensure that Crown land use is consistent with the efficient provision of municipal services, and that use of this land does not otherwise conflict with local government plans and regulations.

4a) These lands are available for a variety of uses provided that the use is not in violation of any approved plan or by-law of the local government.

4b) The local planning authority shall determine whether any proposed use of these lands conforms to their plan or by-law.

4c) In the absence of an approved plan or by-law, the local authority shall determine whether any proposed use is compatible with the local urban environment.

E. UTILITY SITE: CLASSIFICATION UT

PRESENT CONDITION:

There are small parcels of Crown land associated with drains, roads, trails, and power lines occurring in the Planning District. Normally, all such parcels and the associated utility are transferred to the authority responsible for the utility site.

CONCERNS/OBJECTIVES:

It is essential that lands containing public investment in roads, drains, and other utility right-of-ways be identified and protected from incompatible uses.

POLICIES/GUIDELINES:

5. Utility Site - UT

5a) The management and administration of these sites shall be in accordance with their specific purpose by Manitoba Natural Resources and the agency responsible for the utility.

5b) Secondary uses, such as hay cutting, may be permitted if compatible with the purpose of the site and with the approval of the agency responsible for the utility.

V. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

The Crown land plan identifies the major classifications for Crown land. There may be other site-specific uses which are not indicated in the plan. Recognition of this fact is important as some specific allocations, (residences, for example) may not be indicated but are nonetheless protected by the vary nature of the legal commitment to individuals through the leasing and permitting process of Crown lands.

Site-specific uses, that is, most land uses occurring on Crown land utilizing less than 16 hectares (40 acres), which are not shown in the plan, will be listed in Appendix 1, as considered appropriate.

VI. GENERAL PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

A. Plan Approval and Review

Plan approval and any subsequent approval of amendments to the plan shall be by the Provincial Land Use Committee of Cabinet.

Existing policy and procedure for plan and amendment approval require consultation with local planning authorities. Additionally, full review and approval by provincial government departments and agencies through the Interdepartmental Planning Board is also required.

This plan shall be reviewed at such time as the Provincial Land Use Committee of Cabinet or the Crown Land Classification Committee considers it necessary or when the Local Planning Authority is reviewing its Development Plan or 5 years after coming into effect of the plan or from the last review, as the case may be.

The Crown Land Classification Committee is responsible for ensuring that future plan reviews, proposed amendments and classification appeals are processed and implemented as per approved policy and procedure.

B. Land Use Implementation

The land use intent as outlined in this Provincial Crown Land Plan shall be carried out through the application of the "Interdepartmental Operational Crown Land Plan" prepared for the area.

Operational Crown Land Plans are prepared, amended and approved by the Crown Land Classification Committee. Appeals to operational plans shall also be directed to the Crown Land Classification Committee, with the Provincial Land Use Committee being the final authority.

These Operational Plans shall:

a) be consistent with and carry out the intent of this Plan, and

b) identify in map format the permitted uses and intensity of use for the parcels of Crown land in the area.

The approval of this Provincial Crown land plan does not require the Province of Manitoba to undertake any proposal therein suggested or outlined but no undertaking or development within the plan area affected by this Crown land plan shall be carried out that is inconsistent or at variance with the proposals or policies set out in this Crown land plan.

C. Land Use Administration

The use of Crown land is administered through instruments such as leases, permit, contracts, agreements, etc., which are issued by the Crown to individuals, corporations, etc., or declared by the Crown through Orders-in-Council.

Most of the Crown land outside of Order-in-Council areas (i.e., Crown land not included in Community Pastures, Provincial Parks, Provincial Forests, and Wildlife Management Areas) is administered by the authority of the Crown Lands Act. This Act is administered by Manitoba Natural Resources, Lands, with certain specified sections being the responsibility of Manitoba Agriculture, Agricultural Crown Lands.

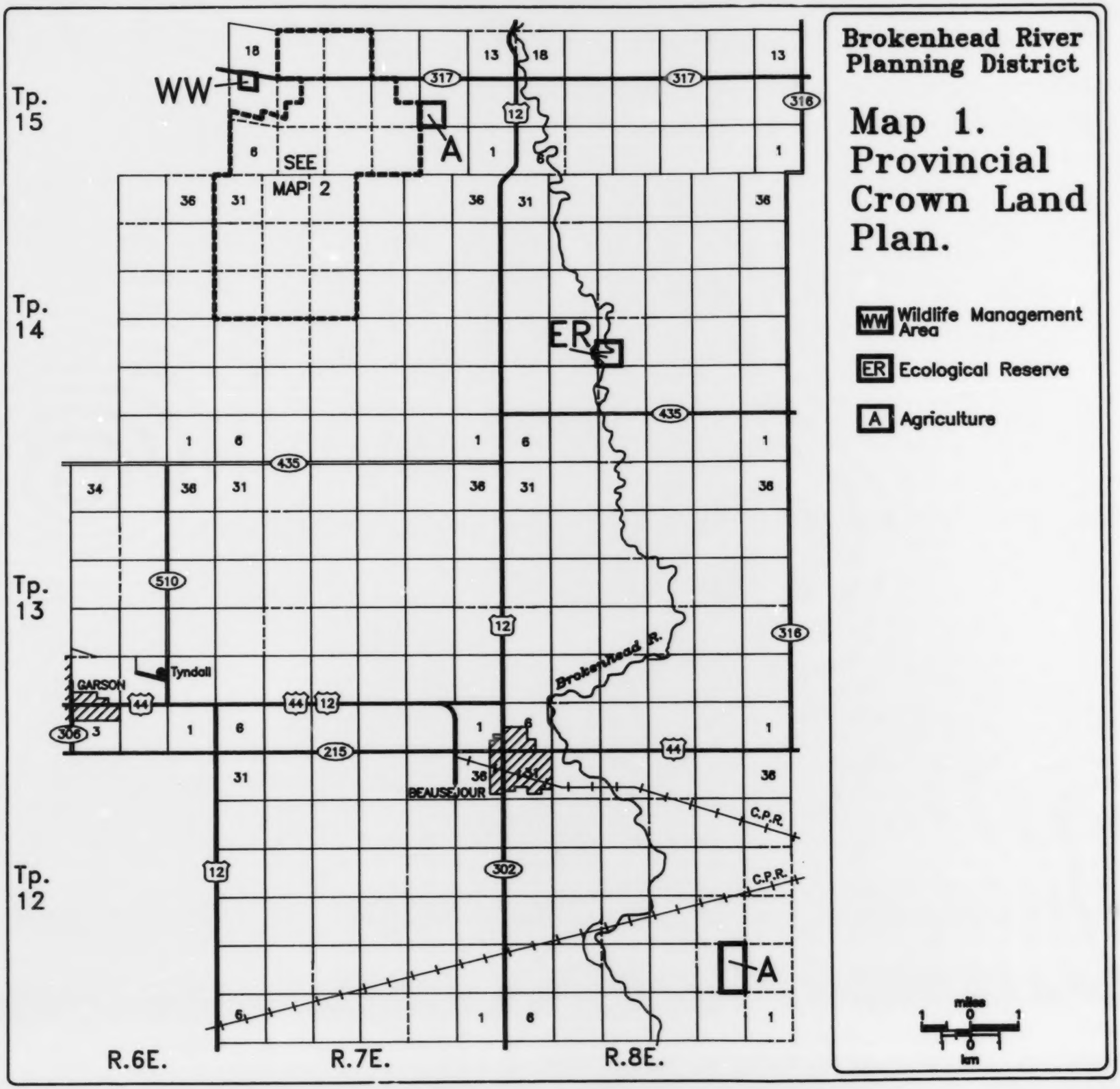
These contracts, leases, permits, agreements, etc., must be in conformity with this Plan and the Interdepartmental Operational Crown Land Plan.

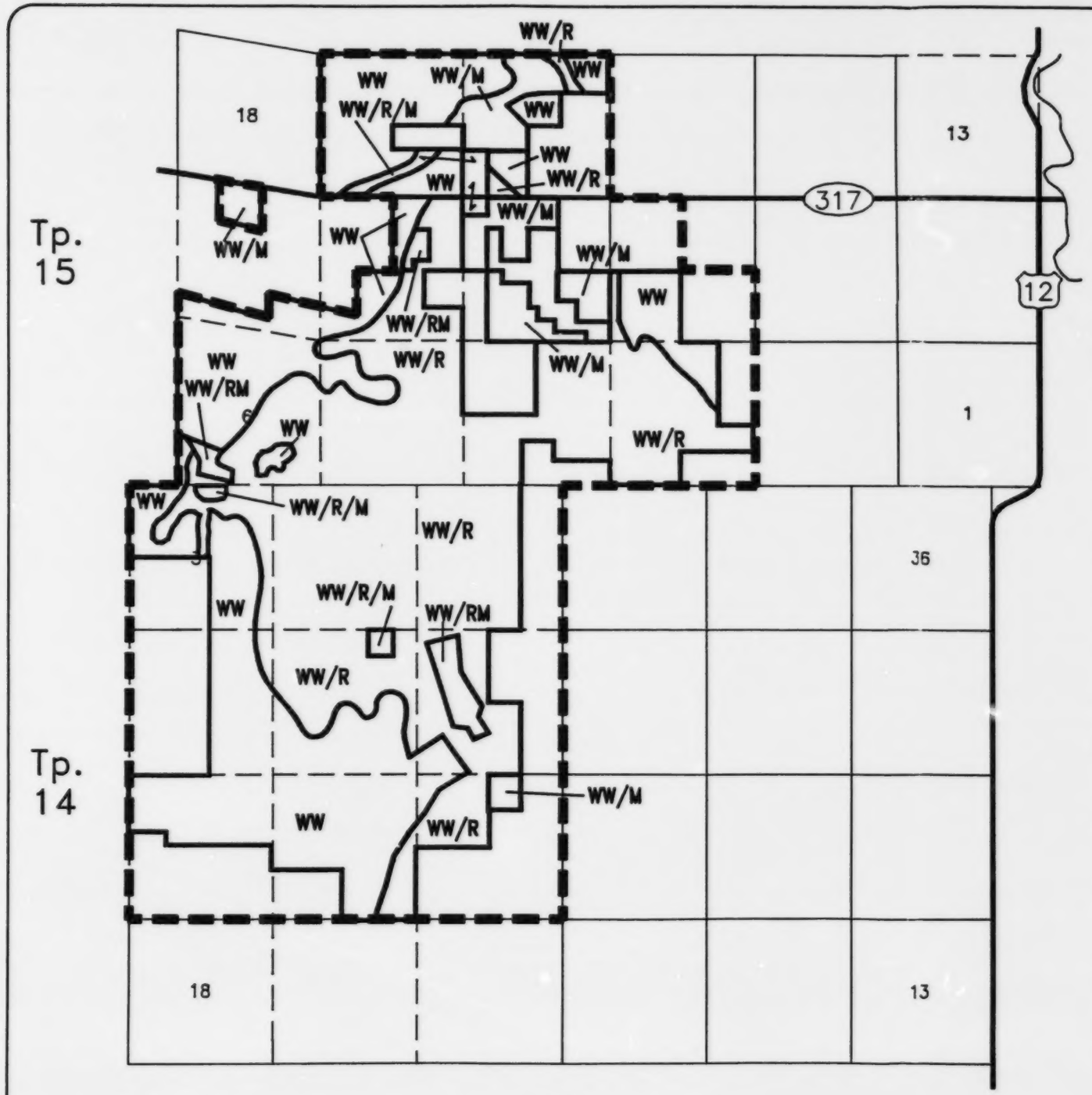
APPENDICES

Appendix 1. Site Specific Crown Land Classifications

none

RECORD OF AMENDMENTS


Brokenhead River Planning District
Map 1. Provincial Crown Land Plan.
WW Wildlife Management Area
ER Ecological Reserve
A Agriculture
WW
A
SEE MAP 2
ER
A
Tp. 15
Tp. 14
Tp. 13
Tp. 12
R.6E.
R.7E.
R.8E.
Tyndall
GARSON
BEAUSEJOUR
Brokenhead R.
C.P.R.
C.P.R.
miles
km



Brokenhead River Planning District

Map 2. Provincial Crown Land Plan for Mars Hill Wildlife Management Area – February, 1991.

WW	Wildlife Management Area
WW/M	Wildlife Management Area & Mineral Extraction
WW/R	Wildlife Management Area & Outdoor Recreation
WW/R/M	Wildlife Management Area & Outdoor Recreation & Mineral Extraction
WW/RM	Wildlife Management Area & Intensive Use Recreation